



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV

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**Approved**  
**9/24/2015**

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES August 24, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC	COMM STAFF/ CONSULTANTS
Michael Johnson, Esq., <i>Co-Chair</i>	Al Ballesteros, MBA	Jason Brown	Carolyn Echols-Watson
Ricky Rosales, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Rev. Alejandro Escoto, MA ( <i>Alt. to Rivera</i> )	Kevin Donnelly	Uyen Kao
Aaron Fox, MPM	Lisa Goldstein ( <i>Alt. to Mills</i> )	Joseph Green	Dawn McClendon
Terry Goddard, MA	Shoshanna Scholar	Miki Jackson	Jane Nachazel
AJ King, MPH	Fariba Younai, DDS	Ted Liso	James Stewart
Brad Land			
Anthony Mills, MD			
Mario Pérez, MPH			<b>DHSP STAFF</b>
Juan Rivera			Kyle Baker
Terry Smith, MPA/Traci Bivens-Davis			
Kevin Stalter			

### CONTENTS OF COMMITTEE PACKET

- Agenda:** Executive Committee Meeting Agenda, 8/24/2015
- Minutes:** Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, 7/27/2015
- Table:** Commission on HIV/DHSP Work Plan, 8/24/2015
- Letter:** County of Los Angeles Quality and Productivity Commission, 29th Annual Quality and Productivity Awards Program, "Champions for Change: Together We Make a Difference," 8/17/2015
- Letter of Concurrence:** Funding Opportunity Announcement PS12-1201, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (CDC, MS E-16), 8/21/2015
- Announcement:** Invitation to register for webinar: CDC/HRSA Overview of Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan, Including the Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need Guidance, Tuesday, August 25, 2015, 12:00 to 2:00 pm (Eastern), 8/24/2015
- Statement of Proceedings:** Report by the Interim Chief Executive Officer, Interim County Counsel and the Director of Personnel on the proposed consolidation of the Departments of Health Services, Public Health and Mental Health into a single integrated health agency, as requested at the Board meetings of January 13, 2015 and March 3, 2015 (15-3653), 8/11/2015
- Survey:** LACHNA 2015 Survey - Draft, 8/24/2015

- CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**  
**Motion 1:** Approve the Agenda Order (***Passed by Consensus***).
- APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**  
**Motion 2:** Approve the 7/27/2015 Executive Committee meeting minutes, as presented (***Passed by Consensus***).
- PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Agendized or Follow-Up):** There were no comments.
- COMMITTEE COMMENT (Non-Agendized or Follow-Up):** There were no comments.

**6. DIVISION OF HIV AND STD PROGRAMS (DHSP) REPORT:**

- Mr. Pérez, MPH, Director, reported DHSP was responding to multiple applications tied to surveillance including annual Ryan White (RW) application development, CDC Annual Performance Reports and others. Several solicitations have also already been released and two other RFPs were in final review with the Department of Public Health (DPH) and County Counsel.
- DHSP has requested a conversation with its CDC funding partners in response to the recent CDC application for funding, in particular regarding data reporting. Historically, DPH/DHSP has developed a fairly efficient way of importing countywide HIV prevention-related data into the web system. The CDC wants to change that approach which DPH/DHSP feels will create inefficiencies. The issue applies to other jurisdictions besides the County and is being addressed at the highest level.
- DHSP is also planning a meeting with the State Office of AIDS to review several items. The agenda is still being developed.
- Delegations will represent the jurisdiction at upcoming 2015 conferences: United States Conference on AIDS, Washington, DC, September; National Coalition for STD Directors, Savannah, GA, October; and the National HIV Prevention Conference (NHPC), Atlanta, GA, December. The NHPC will be particularly important because it has not been held for several years.
- Mr. Pérez announced DPH with the Commission was awarded the County of Los Angeles Quality and Productivity Commission, 29th Annual Quality and Productivity Awards Program, "Champions for Change: Together We Make a Difference," Changemaker Award on 8/17/2015 for its submission, "Novel Program Improves HIV Care and Prevention" for the Medical Care Coordination (MCC) program. The awards luncheon will be 10/21/2015 at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion.
- It is a significant County recognition of innovation, responsiveness and/or cost effectiveness. Submissions come from throughout the County system. He complimented the DHSP/Commission team who developed MCC especially Wendy Garland who shepherded development of MCC as a strategy to improve health outcomes of PLWH in the RW system.
- ➡ The Changemaker Award will be recognized at the next Commission meeting. Ms. McClendon will also notify those intimately involved with MCC development of the honor, e.g., Tony Braswell, Angélica Palmeros. A small delegation of those involved in MCC development from DHSP and the Commission will be selected to attend the luncheon.

**7. CO-CHAIRS' REPORT:**

**A. Commission/DHSP 2015 Work Plan:**

- The updated Work Plan reflects all Commission variables for the RW FY 25 Grant Application and the CDC Grant APR have been submitted. Ms. McClendon also submitted the final Commission budget draft to Dave Young for review.
- ➡ Ms. McClendon will schedule a Commission RW FY 25 Grant Application review opportunity prior to submission.

**B. Executive Director (ED) Update:**

- Mr. Rosales reported County Counsel determined Commission members cannot apply for Executive Director. A higher level review has been requested as well as an expanded search. Patrick Ogawa, Acting Executive Officer, and County Counsel were asked to attend this Executive meeting to discuss the issues, but Mr. Ogawa was unable to do so.
- Mr. Johnson asked if the body felt an emergency meeting was necessary to review County Counsel's opinion. While not a conflict of interest expert, he found analysis straightforward and included all affiliated with the structure at the time.
- Mr. Rosales felt it valuable to challenge the determination especially as there was just one eligible candidate. Mr. Ogawa said he was interested in having a meaningful conversation on the analysis. Dr. Mills felt it valuable, regardless of outcome, to express Executive's concerns, how important this is and how invested Executive is in the process.
- Mr. Rosales reported the bulletin is on the County site and has been distributed widely to various other government, advocacy and association sites, e.g., the Community Clinic Association site.
- Six candidates have applied to date. One was disqualified and four did not meet minimum requirements so one is left. The bulletin may be closed and re-opened at a later date if there are no more candidates by the end of the month.
- ➡ An Emergency Executive Committee will be scheduled to meet with Mr. Ogawa and County Counsel.

**C. County's Health Integration Update:**

**1) Integration Advisory Board (IAB) Representation:**

- Mr. Johnson said the motion shows extraordinary respect and engagement by requesting two representatives from this and four other Commissions, one or two consumers from each Commission's discipline and one or two representatives from each Department's organized labor unions for a temporary Integration Advisory Board (IAB). Commission and consumer representatives are to be elected by public vote of each Commission.
- Mr. Johnson believed the definition of "consumer" was a PLWH, but Mr. Pérez felt that as an integrated prevention, care and treatment planning body that the widest definition should be used, not the HRSA definition.
- ➡ Agendize close of nominations and vote at October Commission to elect two Commission representatives and two consumers to the IAB. Current candidates were: Mr. Ballesteros, Ms. Bivens-Davis, Mr. Fox and Mr. Johnson.

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2015

Page 3 of 5

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- ➡ Ms. McClendon will request a definition of "consumer" for the IAB and report back to Executive.

### 2) Health Integration Work Group:

- Mr. Johnson noted the Work Group could not meet prior to Board action, but the detailed plan was available for review. The integration piece is mainly County process driven so the Work Group will have little impact in that area. He was concerned not to see discussion about potential impacts to external stakeholders.
  - Mr. Fox was at the Board meeting and noted the process has been contentious within the County. Many thought integration would be rammed through without community support, but the Supervisors wisely chose to step back, make time for public input and incorporate formal public input as integration occurs.
  - He felt the Commission's main charge in the process was to ensure the Commission and its consumers do not fall through the cracks. As bureaucracy gets bigger, it can make it more difficult for consumers to access services as well as for planners. Mental health stakeholders were especially concerned, e.g., Mental Health America worked to ensure the Department of Mental Health was not pushed aside. This plan is improved from the initial draft.
- ➡ Ms. McClendon will schedule the next Work Group meeting.

### D. Annual Meeting:

#### 1) November 12, 2015: The date was confirmed.

#### 2) Agenda:

- Mr. Land reported early discussions on what could be addressed to best inform the Comprehensive HIV Plan (CHP). It might be possible to do some preliminary work prior to receiving data as the CHP timeframe is quite tight.
- Mr. Johnson suggested checking with the County on how integration may impact the CHP. Mr. Land felt that was being discussed. Representatives and consumers on the IAB will also help inform that topic.

### E. Integration HIV Prevention and Care Plan Webinar - Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at 9:00 to 11:00 am:

- Mr. Rosales noted this webinar can help inform the CHP.

## 8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### A. Planning, Priorities and Allocations (PP&A) Committee:

#### 1) Draft 2015 LACHNA Survey Tool:

- (a) Review - Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at 1:30 to 3:30 pm: PP&A will review the tool in the packet at this meeting. The timeline will likely not allow a full pilot with consumers as in the past, but all were welcome to the meeting.

#### 2) Comprehensive HIV Plan (CHP) Task Force: ➡ The next meeting was scheduled for 9/1/2015.

- (a) CHP Scope of Work: The Scope of Work has been completed.

- (a) CHP Timeline: ➡ The timeline is being finalized for consideration at the 9/1/2015 CHP Task Force meeting.

### B. Standards and Best Practices (SBP) Committee:

- Mr. Goddard noted SBP is newly constituted with several new members. SBP will review its focus at the next meeting - including Bylaws, mandates and what is required to develop a standard.
- SBP has also created an Indicator/Outcomes Work Group to review an existing draft report on indicators/outcomes developed several years ago and discuss how to move forward in a coordinated manner with DHSP.

#### 1) Standards Publication Update/Timeline:

- Mr. Goddard reported SBP would publish in October 2015 at the earliest. There was some debate about whether particular standards should be held back for updating, but he felt that posed a danger of delaying publication.
- Existing Special Population Guidelines for transgender, women and youth are being reviewed for accuracy.

### C. Operations Committee:

- Mr. Stalter reported Operations requested Executive establish a task force to review global Commission structural issues such as how structure affects populations seated at the table and dispersal of power. Operations will address implementation, but felt Executive best suited to define a framework for improving Commission structure.
- Operations will be doing a full review and revision of the membership drive process including expanded outreach and developing new and renewal interview questions. Operations plans to work more closely with Caucuses to support leadership development and better incorporation into recruitment efforts.
- Mr. Land noted the discussion on structural issues was passionate. He suggested Executive have a pre-Annual Meeting retreat to wrestle with challenges and how to address them through creative approaches and planning.

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2015

Page 4 of 5

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- Ms. Jackson felt structural issues were embedded, but can be addressed. Caucuses, for example, often work hard, but lack a formal way to feed results into the Commission so feel unheard. Stronger Caucuses can help build recruitment and leadership, especially because members look more like today's epidemic than the Commission overall.
- Mr. Stalter said Dr. Mills suggested all Caucuses meet after the Commission with lunch to encourage camaraderie.
- Mr. Johnson noted current leadership was elected and fairly diverse. There should be a frank conversation about the goal. Changing the face of leadership means getting new people to run. A task force per se cannot change that.
- Ms. Bivens-Davis felt the power of a task force is allowing people to come together and leaders to emerge, e.g., by giving presentations. A task force can be used to create a community, influence processes, provide education and create unstructured opportunities for more people to step into leadership positions not represented at the table.
- Her concern with how elections were currently conducted was presentation. It would have been inclusive on the day of the election to say to the community that we want to hear from and be a part of the community, but this particular aspect was closed to community-level participation. Instead, the community was told it could not speak. In a democracy, that immediately creates a feeling of exclusion which affects the outcome and sounds uncaring.
- Mr. Fox has thought about many recent conversations in light of not only the Commission, but the community at large. The Commission wants to be as inclusive as possible. Yet, it is somewhat different since Commission members are Board approved. He felt much of Ms. Bivens-Davis focus is more of a communications skill, rather than structural, issue. The issue of who is literally around the table has challenged the Commission for a long time, especially as the epidemic changes. There are many issues, e.g., Board approval and time to serve, but communication skills can mitigate them.
- Mr. Stewart noted ballot vote results have been shown to differ from voice vote results because later voters tend to follow earlier ones, but voice votes are required by the Brown Act. The Ordinance/Bylaws can be revised, but adding restrictions makes seats harder to fill. Previous restrictions were removed to reduce vacancies.
- Mr. Fox said the only results we know are those we have. Speculating about different ballot vote results just opens a can of worms. Each member is responsible for his/her conscience, but there is a major communication disconnect.
- Mr. Smith felt this was a much larger conversation about race/ethnicity, privilege, how we engage other communities and who sits at the table. A task force is best suited to address that larger conversation.
- Mr. Stalter said, as the epidemic changes, newer populations are emerging while the previous population who are most common in the field age. Improved treatments also undercuts passion for the cause. There is a gap, especially of hard-hit communities of color. The task force offers an opportunity to look at how to groom newer populations.
- Ms. Jackson understood Mr. Fox's point, but said Mr. Stewart's comment on ballot votes is supported by solid science. Would it make a difference in a given election? One cannot know, but it is something to understand going forward.
- She suggested offering training. She worked at a previous organization whose members ran trainings on a broad range of topics from running a meeting to public speaking. People joined for the free trainings. The Commission could offer trainings before Commission meetings which could entice people to stay and become interested.
- She also suggested changing meeting times. Many people cannot attend during the day, especially those from targeted populations. Even shifting some meetings to non-business hours, e.g., Caucuses, could help.
- Mr. Land offered a structural comment on agendas. The community should be advised at the start of the meeting if there are items on the agenda that will not be open for public comment so that comments can be made under the Public Comment item. The community was not advised of that at the last meeting which undermined communication.
- Mr. Fox noted how elections were agendaized was confusing since there was Q/A, but the community was excluded.
- Mr. Johnson agreed, but added it was important to respect elections held. We should send the message to the body that everyone deserves a fair chance to do his/her job. Nothing chills leadership recruitment more than seeing current leaders told they should not be there. Others then feel that is what they will face if they run.
- ➡ Executive initiated a Commission Structure Task Force to review global Commission structural issues and report back to Operations which will implement revisions as needed. Members to date were: Ms. Bivens-Davis and Messrs. Green, King, Land, Rivera and Stalter. An open invitation to join will be extended at the October Commission meeting. Ms. Jackson, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Rosales will also be copied on Task Force activities.
- ➡ Ms. McClendon will review the Commission budget's County Counsel line item to ensure sufficient funds in light of expanded activity, e.g., Executive Director search; possible Ordinance, Bylaws and transportation program revisions.
- 1) **Member Training/Orientation:** Mr. King said Orientation was postponed to late September or early October. It will focus on basics to form a foundation for later training. Dr. Michael Green was developing a PowerPoint presentation.

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2015

Page 5 of 5

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### D. Public Policy Committee:

- Mr. Fox noted the 8/18/2015 "HIV Is Not A Crime: Criminalizing It Is" conference hosted by Californians for HIV Criminalization Reform at The Village at Ed Gould Plaza. Approximately 60 people heard updates on issues in other states and discussed preliminary Williams Institute research, new since it presented to the Commission 1/8/2015.
- There were approximately 1,000 instances of such laws used in California with some 50% in the County. Instances disproportionately affect women, especially women of color. There is no data on transgender women, but they are likely included with women. He will continue to update Public Policy and the Commission as a whole. It was hoped that legislation will be introduced into the California Legislature next year which the Commission could support.
- Laws vary across states, but none are models. Legislation developed for California would likely be best if passed, but prostitution, solicitation, stigma and HIV are issues. Often PLWH are treated worse than others for the same crime.
- Ms. Jackson suggested attention to the linked issue of sex work decriminalization. In addition to criminalization, she felt the process for sex workers was abusive. Mr. Fox noted the International AIDS Conference presented on studies that showed decriminalizing sex work reduced HIV infections. He added Amnesty International recently supported decriminalization. Opposition has mainly addressed how to decriminalize while protecting victims of sex trafficking.
- ➡ Public Policy cancelled its August meeting as the Commission meeting was cancelled and there were no pressing issues.

### 9. CAUCUS REPORTS:

#### A. Consumer Caucus:

- Mr. Donnelly reported most discussion was with a consumer member of the public pertaining to mental health and psychiatry access. Having sat on the HIV Mental Health Task Force, he does know that is an issue.
- Mr. Stalter urged developing Caucus procedural rules. Many left because one person dominated the meeting with one issue and it became contentious. It should feel safe, but did not. Rules could be noted at the meeting's start.
- Mr. Pérez noted these are complex issues. It should not be ignored that increasingly some consumers come to the Commission to grieve their experience with a provider and absorb significant meeting time. The Commission should not be expected to address issues off the cuff, without all the facts or the provider's perspective at a public meeting.
- Individual level complaints can be referred to DHSP's Grievance Line. DHSP follows up on access issues with its partners, but can do little for a consumer receiving care, e.g., at Kaiser. Some consumers are also misinformed. The Commission needs to be a responsible planning body while realizing a two-minute public comment will not garner a psychiatrist appointment in the next few days. He felt Executive could address such issues to benefit all parties.
- Mr. Baker said the Commission should be careful not to set an expectation of 51 case managers and benefits navigators waiting at the mic to serve people. Mr. Stewart added some grieve only because they did not get what they wanted.
- Mr. Goddard said his agency has had to adapt its model to serve a more mentally challenged population. It is more careful to supervise staff and has increased security. Staff need to be thoughtful in addressing a less stable population.
- Mr. Donnelly encouraged offering consumers the opportunity to sit on the IAB as well as to attend the NHPC. Ms. Nachazel noted unaffiliated consumers can request a form to apply for assistance to attend conferences.
- ➡ Mr. Johnson referred to the Commission Structure Task Force development of scripts for Co-Chairs to navigate complex individual consumer issues such as mental health raised in meetings. Scripts help Co-Chairs respectfully provide a safe space for consumers while also properly referring to DHSP matters in their purview. County Counsel and the Executive Office has constantly advised the Commission not to engage the public inappropriately in a meeting.
- ➡ Ms. McClendon will coordinate with DHSP to provide the Grievance Line email and phone number in the packet.
- ➡ Ms. McClendon will send an advisory to the Caucus about opportunities to participate in the IAB and at the NHPC.

**B. Transgender Caucus:** Sabel Samone-Loreca recently participated in the Queen USA Pageant.

**C. Youth Caucus:** There was no discussion.

**10. NEXT STEPS:** The September Commission and Consumer Caucus meetings were both cancelled.

**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There were no announcements.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.